UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF 2011 SEP 21 P 3: 51

San Jose Division

RICHARD W. WIEKING

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CHRISTOPHER DOYON, aka "PLF," "Commander Adama," and "Commander X," JOSHUA JOHN COVELLI, aka "Absolem," and "Toxic,"

INDICTMENT

COUNT ONE:

18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(b),(c)(4)(A)(i)(I) - Conspiracy to Commit Intentional

Damage to a Protected Computer;

18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), (c)(4)(B)(i) & (2) - Intentional

Damage to a Protected Computer, Aiding and Abetting.

A true bill

Foreperson

Filed in open court this 21st day of September

A.D. 2011

Arrest Warrent for Dayon
Bail. 8 Summans for Covelli

United States Magistrate Judge

DOCUMENT NO

MELINDA HAAG (CABN 132612) United States Attorney



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SAN JOSE DIVISION

united states of america, CR11 $1_{\!\! L}$. CR- 00683

Plaintiff,

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CHRISTOPHER DOYON, aka "PLF," "Commander Adama," and "Commander X."

JOSHUA JOHN CÓVELLI, aka "Absolem," and "Toxic,"

Defendants.

<u>VIOLATIONS</u>:18 U.S.C.§§1030(b), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I) – Conspiracy; 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), (c)(4)(B)(i) – Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer; 18 U.S.C. § 2 – Aiding and Abetting.

(SAN JOSE VENUE)

Filed Under Seal

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

Introductory Allegations:

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

The County of Santa Cruz, California ("Santa Cruz County"), was located wholly 1. within the Northern District of California. Santa Cruz County maintained a website on the Internet through computer servers also located within the Northern District of California. This website allowed access to Santa Cruz County's government entities and programs, including Emergency Services, Law Enforcement, the Courts, Social Services, Agricultural Extension,

INDICTMENT

 Employment, Surplus Sales, Vendor Registration, and Construction Projects and Proposals. Santa Cruz County's website and computer servers were used in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce and communication.

- 2. The City of Santa Cruz ("Santa Cruz City") was located wholly within Santa Cruz County. The Santa Cruz City Municipal Code ("the Municipal Code") was a codification of the general ordinances of Santa Cruz City. Section 6.36.010 of the Municipal Code, entitled "Camping Prohibited," contained restrictions and definitions on camping within Santa Cruz City. In response to the enforcement of Section 6.36.010, protesters occupied the Santa Cruz County Courthouse premises from approximately July 4, 2010, to October 2, 2010. Law enforcement officers from Santa Cruz County disbanded the protest and several protesters were charged with misdemeanors crimes in Santa Cruz County.
- 3. The People's Liberation Front, also known as PLF, was an online collective of individuals that was associated with collaborative hacking attacks motivated by political and social goals, often referred to as "hactivism."
- 4. A Distributed Denial of Service ("DDoS") was a hacking attack that attempted to render a computer resource unavailable to its intended users. One common DDoS attack attempted to saturate the target computer or network with external communications requests, such that the target could not respond to legitimate traffic, or responded so slowly as to render the target effectively unavailable.
- 5. A High Orbit Ion Cannon ("HOIC") was an open source computer program that was originally designed as a network security and stability testing application, but which was also used as a tool by DDoS attackers. Attackers used HOIC to send extremely large amounts of packets or requests over a network in an attempt to overwhelm a target.

DDoS Attacks on the County of Santa Cruz, California:

6. In retribution for Santa Cruz City's enforcement of Section 6.36.010 of the Municipal Code, and Santa Cruz County's disbandment of the protest, the PLF coordinated and executed a DDoS attack against Santa Cruz County's computer servers using HOIC. The PLF referred to these co-ordinated attacks on Santa Cruz County as "Operation Peace Camp 2010."

| 1 | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 1 | COUNT ONE: (18 U.S.C. § 1030(b) – Conspiracy to Commit Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer) | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | 7. The factual allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 6 are realleged | |
| 4 | and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full. | |
| 5 | 8. On or about a date unknown but at least by December 12, 2010, and continuing to | |
| 6 | on or about December 16, 2010, in the Northern District of California and elsewhere, the | |
| 7 | defendants, | |
| 8 | CHRISTOPHER DOYON, aka "PLF," "Commander Adama," and "Commander X," | |
| 10 | JOSHUA JOHN COVELLI, aka "Absolem," and "Toxic," | |
| 11 | 1'11 In a sure in and a green with each other and other nercons known and unknown to the | |
| 12 | did knowingly conspire and agree with each other and other persons known and unknown to the | |
| 13 | Grand Jury to commit Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ | |
| 14 | 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), & (c)(4)(B)(I), that is to commit a DDoS attack on Santa Cruz | |
| 15 | County's protected computers. | |
| 16 | All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1030(b) & (c)(4)(A)(i)(I). | |
| 17 18 | COUNT TWO: (18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), (c)(4)(B)(i) & (2) – Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer, Aiding and Abetting) | |
| 19 | 9. The factual allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 6 are realleged | |
| 20 | and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full. | |
| 21 | On or about December 16, 2010, in the Northern District of California and | |
| 22 | elsewhere, the defendant, | |
| 23 | CHRISTOPHER DOYON, aka "PLF," "Commander Adama," and | |
| 24 | aka "PLF," "Commander Adama," and "Commander X," | |
| 25 | knowingly caused the transmission of a program, information, code, and command, that is, | |
| 26 | HOIC, and, as a result of such conduct, intentionally caused damage without authorization to | |
| 27 | protected computers of Santa Cruz County, and caused loss to 1 or more persons during a 1-year | |
| 28 | period affecting protected computers aggregating at least \$5,000 in value. | |
| | II | |

| 1 | All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), | | |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2 | (c)(4)(B)(i), & 2. | | |
| 3 | COUNT THREE: (18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), (c)(4)(B)(i) & (2) – Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer, Aiding and Abetting) | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | 10. The factual allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 6 are realleged | | |
| 6 | and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full. | | |
| 7 | On or about December 16, 2010, in the Northern District of California and | | |
| 8 | elsewhere, the defendant, | | |
| 9 | JOSHUA JOHN COVELLI, aka "Absolem," and "Toxic," | | |
| 10 | | | |
| 11 | knowingly caused the transmission of a program, information, code, and command, that is, | | |
| 12 | HOIC, and, as a result of such conduct, intentionally caused damage without authorization to | | |
| 13 | protected computers of Santa Cruz County, and caused loss to 1 or more persons during a 1-year | | |
| 14 | period affecting protected computers aggregating at least \$5,000 in value. | | |
| 15 | All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(I), | | |
| 16 | (c)(4)(B)(i), & 2. | | |
| 17 | | | |
| 18 | DATED: 9/21/1 | | |
| 19 | FOREPERSON | | |
| 20 | | | |
| 21 | MELINDA HAAG United States Attorney | | |
| 22 | Melanes | | |
| 23 | MATTHEW A. PARRELLA Chief, CHIP Unit | | |
| 24 | 1010 71 | | |
| 25 | (Approved as to form: AUSAS PARRELLA & CHEW | | |
| 26 | TODING TIME COLUMN TO SAME TO | | |
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| 28 | | | |
| | | | |

AO 257 (Rev. 6/78)

| DEENDANT INCODMATION BELATIVE TO | O A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT |
|--|--|
| | A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT |
| BY: COMPLAINT LINFORMATION MINDICTMENT | Name of Distrigt-Gourt, and/or_Judge/Magistrate Location |
| OFFENSE CHARGED SUPERSEDING | NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA |
| Count 1: 18 U.S.C.§§1030(b), (c)(4)(A)(i)(l) – Conspiracy Petty | SAN JOSE DIVISION |
| Counts 2-3: 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(i), (c)(4)(B)(i) | ZUIT SEP 21 P 3: 52 |
| - Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer Militor Misde | |
| mean mean | or aka "PLF," "Commander Adama, and |
| Felong Felong | DISTRICT COURT NUMBER 1005 |
| PENALTY: Count 1:5 years imprisonment each count; \$250,000 fine. Counts 2-3: 10 years imprisonment each count; \$250,000 fine each | - 0000 |
| count. | R11 (10003) |
| | DEFENDANT |
| PROCEEDING | DEFENDANT |
| PROCEEDING | Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding. |
| Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any) | 1) X If not detained give date any prior summons was served on above charges |
| FBI Special Agent Melanie Adams | Summons was served on above charges |
| person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court | 2) Sa Fugitive |
| | 3) Son Bail or Release from (show District) |
| this person/proceeding is transferred from another district | |
| per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District | |
| | IS IN CUSTODY |
| | 4) On this charge |
| this is a reprosecution of charges previously dismissed | 5) On another conviction |
| which were dismissed on motion SHOW | Federal State |
| OI | 6) Awaiting trial on other charges |
| U.S. ATTORNEY DEFENSE | If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution |
| this prosecution relates to a | Has detainer Yes 1 If "Yes" |
| pending case involving this same defendant MAGISTRATE | heen filed? |
| CASE NO. | Tiled |
| prior proceedings or appearance(s) ☐ before U.S. Magistrate regarding this | DATE OF Month/Day/Year ARREST |
| defendant were recorded under | Or if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not |
| Name and Office of Person | DATE TRANSFERRED Month/Day/Year |
| Furnishing Information on this form Melinda Haag | TO U.S. CUSTODY |
| ☑ U.S. Attorney ☐ Other U.S. Agency | |
| Name of Assistant U.S. Attorney (if assigned) Matthew A. Parrella | This report amends AO 257 previously submitted |
| | ORMATION OR COMMENTS |
| PROCESS: | |
| ☐ SUMMONS ☐ NO PROCESS* ☒ WARRANT | Bail Amount: No Bail |
| If Summons, complete following: | * Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or |
| Arraignment Initial Appearance | warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment A 1 |
| Defendant Address: | / / |
| | Date/Time: Before Judge: 1 |
| Comments: | |

AO 257 (Rev. 6/78)

| DEFENDANT INCODMATION DELATIVE TO | A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT |
|--|--|
| | A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT |
| BY: COMPLAINT INFORMATION INDICTMENT | Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Location |
| OFFENSE CHARGED SUPERSEDING | NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA |
| Count 1: 18 U.S.C.§§1030(b), (c)(4)(A)(i)(l) – Conspiracy Petty | SAN JOSE DIVISION |
| Counts 2-3: 18 U.S.C. §§ 1030(a)(5)(A), (c)(4)(A)(i)(l), (c)(4)(B)(i) - Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer Minor | 201 SEP 21 P 3: 51 |
| Misde- | |
| meand | aka "Absolem", and Toxic III I |
| Felony ROLL X Felony | OLERIN, U.S. DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT COURT NUMBERF |
| PENALTY: Count 1:5 years imprisonment \$250,000 fine each Counts 2-3: 10 years imprisonment \$250,000 fine each | DII OOCQO |
| count. | THII UUUOO |
| | PETENDANT PROPERTY OF THE PARTY |
| | DEFENDANT |
| PROCEEDING | IS NOT IN CUSTODY Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding. |
| Name of Complaintant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any) | 1) If not detained give date any prior |
| FBI Special Agent Melanie Adams | summons was served on above charges |
| person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court | 2) Is a Fugitive |
| | 3) 🔀 Is on Bail or Release from (show District) |
| this necessary and administration of the professional forces and the contract of | NDCA - CR-11-00471-DLJ |
| this person/proceeding is transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrp 20, 21, or 40. Show District | |
| | IS IN CUSTODY |
| | 4) On this charge |
| this is a reprosecution of charges previously dismissed | 5) On another conviction |
| which were dismissed on motion SHOW | Federal State |
| | 6) Awaiting trial on other charges |
| U.S. ATTORNEY DEFENSE | If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution |
| this prosecution relates to a | Yes 1 If "Yes" |
| pending case involving this same | Has detainer Yes If "Yes" give date |
| defendant MAGISTRATE CASE NO. | Tiled |
| prior proceedings or appearance(s) | DATE OF Month/Day/Year ARREST |
| before U.S. Magistrate regarding this defendant were recorded under | Or if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not |
| Name and Office of Person | DATE TRANSFERRED Month/Day/Year |
| Furnishing Information on this form Melinda Haag | TO U.S. CUSTODY |
| ☑ U.S. Attorney ☐ Other U.S. Agency | |
| Name of Assistant U.S. Attorney (if assigned) Matthew A. Parrella | This report amends AO 257 previously submitted |
| ADDITIONAL INFO | ORMATION OR COMMENTS |
| PROCESS: | |
| SUMMONS ☐ NO PROCESS* ☐ WARRANT | Bail Amount: |
| If Summons, complete following: Arraignment Initial Appearance | * Where defendant previously apprehended on complaint, no new summons or warrant needed, since Magistrate has scheduled arraignment |
| Defendant Address: | DI:30 PM |
| 229 West Pundering Rose, Cap. 13, Princes and the control of the c | Pate/Time: November 1, 2011 Before Judge: Grewal HPL |
| Comments: Please have the U.S. Marshal's Service serve the | e Summons by mail. |